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food he has abstained almost entirely for thirty years, and from fish for three. He maintains that strict vegetarianism is an essential condition of perfect health, and that its prevalence would increase appreciably the average standard of longevity. He lives, eighty-two years of age, hale and strong, with a quick and clear intellect, — the test of his own hygienic doctrines. His book ought to be read, were it only because it is his. It merits careful attention, also, for the large number of illustrative cases and instances adduced under each head. Moreover, those who cannot or will not be his disciples in full will find themselves admonished in many particulars in which they cannot disagree with him, but in which his large experience suggests counsels and cautions of the utmost value.

25. — *John Rogers: the Compiler of the First Authorized English Bible; the Pioneer of the English Reformation; and its First Martyr. Embracing a Genealogical Account of his Family, Biographical Sketches of some of his Principal Descendants, his own Writings, etc., etc.* By JOSEPH LEMUEL CHESTER. London: Longman, Green, Longman, and Roberts. 1861. 8vo. pp. 452.

THE chief object of this new memoir of John Rogers is to vindicate for his memory the honor of having compiled the Matthew Bible. We are inclined to admit the author's conclusion as most probably the truth, though not wholly beyond reasonable doubt. The Bible was issued under the name of Thomas Matthew. History has preserved not a single fact with reference to this same Matthew, who, if a real man, could hardly have failed to be an object of curiosity, and to leave traces of his birthplace, residence, and fortunes. The choice of this double apostolic appellation for a pseudonyme was by no means unnatural for a translator and editor of the Scriptures. But, if it were a pseudonyme, our author proves, as it seems to us, that only John Rogers could have borne it. The Memoir does ample justice to the eloquence as well as to the learning of the first Marian martyr, and renders it certain that his conversion to Romanism was specially desired and sought at court, and that it was in the hope of damaging Protestantism by his recantation, that his doom was delayed so long after he was taken into custody. The author has given us a biography of very great interest and value, making the best possible use of scanty materials, and manifesting a rare sagacity in conjectural criticism wherever there are blots or various readings in the records of the times.

We are sorry to say that our author's genealogical researches are fatal to the claim of numerous families in New England to descent

from the martyr. Some years ago, Mr. Savage — behind whose assertion in such matters it is seldom needful to look — expressed, not his belief, but his knowledge that not a family in America could trace its ancestry to John Rogers. Most, if not all, of his *soi-disant* descendants in this country are descended from Rev. Nathaniel Rogers of Ipswich, of whom Hutchinson, in his History of the Colony of Massachusetts, speaks as “descended from the Protomartyr in Queen Mary’s reign,” citing Hubbard for his authority. Hubbard, who married the daughter of Nathaniel Rogers, makes no such statement, and Hutchinson did not write till more than a century after the death of the Ipswich minister. The father of Nathaniel was Rev. John Rogers of Dedham, England, a distinguished Puritan divine and author, who neither alludes to himself, nor is alluded to in any contemporary notice of him or his works, as a descendant of John the martyr. In all probability Hutchinson’s authority was the general belief of the Rogers family at his time, — a belief which naturally grew up from the identity of name between the martyr and their first American ancestor’s father, at a period when genealogical registers were few and imperfect.

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26. — *Like and Unlike. A Novel.* By A. S. ROE, Author of “I’ve been Thinking,” “A Long Look Ahead,” “True to the Last,” “To Love and to be Loved,” “The Star and the Cloud,” “How could he Help it?” etc. New York: Carleton. 1861. 12mo. pp. 501.

WE are glad to see this new novel by Mr. Roe. We regard him as one of the best living novelists. His stories are not exciting; but they are deeply interesting, with enough of mirth, and enough of pathos; with an adequate variety of incident, and with characters so strongly individualized as to win for them much of the sympathy we feel for the fortunes of actually living persons. At the same time, we would speak emphatically of the purity and the positively high moral tone of these novels. Not didactic in form or pretence, they cannot fail to be eminently so in effect in the hands of the young readers who constitute the great majority of a novelist’s public.

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27. — *Tragedy of Success.* Boston: Ticknor and Fields. 1862. 16mo. pp. 191.

IN our April number we expressed our warm and unqualified admiration of the “Tragedy of Errors,” of which this is the sequel. Thought, sentiment, imagery, diction, and rhythm are all fully sustained in the continuation and catastrophe of the tragic story; and the